

Amdt. dated August 4, 2005
Reply to Office action of June 6, 2005

Serial No. 09/591,035
Docket No. STL920000063US1
Firm No. 0054.0047

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-24 remain pending in this application. No claims have been amended. No new claims have been added. No claims have been canceled. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application as amended are respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Helgeson et al. (U.S. 2002/0073236, hereinafter "Helgeson"), and in view of O'Brien et al. (U.S. 6,351,776, hereinafter "O'Brien"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the reasons set forth below.

By use of the present invention, a transaction-based application is adapted to process transactions over a network such as an internet or intranet. The transaction-based application is adapted by scanning the source code of the transaction-based application to identify the transaction and the related information, wherein the transaction-based application does not process transactions over the network (e.g., Specification, page 10, lines 23-26); storing the related information identified in the scan of the source code in a database, hereinafter identified information; extracting parameter definitions describing a communication of information by the transaction from the database, hereinafter extracted information; identifying a parameter usage type for each parameter, said parameter usage type selectable from the parameter usage type set comprising input, output, input/output, and unreferenced; displaying the transaction and a subset of the related information and extracted information; allowing a user to select the transaction; and, using the identified information and extracted information to package the user-selected transaction in a form compatible with a connector building tool, wherein the identified information and extracted information enable building a connector to enable the transaction-based application to process transactions over the network (e.g., Specification, page 14, lines 13-14, FIG. 3, block 345).

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Thus, the claimed invention is directed towards analyzing a transaction-based application in order to build a connector to adapt the transaction-based application to process transactions over a network such as an internet or intranet.

The Helgeson patent application and O'Brien patent, either alone or together, do not teach or suggest processing the source code of a transaction-based application that does not process transactions over the network to output data in a form compatible with a connector building tool, wherein identified information and extracted information enable building a connector to enable the transaction-based application to process transactions over the network.

The Helgeson patent application translates data from a system specific local format to a generic interchange format object, and vice versa, with predefined stylesheets using generic components and system specific service components that utilize a native application programming interface of the specific local system. (Abstract).

In particular, the Examiner submits that the Helgeson patent application at p. 2, paragraph 0016 teaches a method of adapting a transaction-based application to process transactions over a network, said transaction-based application comprising source code describing a transaction and information related to the transaction, hereinafter related information, said method comprising the steps of scanning the source code of the transaction-based application to identify the transaction and the related information, wherein the transaction-based application does not process transactions over the network. However, at p. 2, paragraph 0016, the Helgeson patent application teaches:

"The system may also include a monitor component for monitoring changes of a data object at a system, with the monitoring component having both a system independent service subcomponent and a system specific service component utilizing a native API of the monitored system to monitor changes of the data object. The system may also include a mapper component for identifying a local object identifier and a document type."

The Examiner submits that the term "monitoring" is broad enough to describe scanning. Applicants traverse. The Helgeson patent application describes "monitoring" as monitoring

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changes of a data object at a system. For example, the monitor 945 monitors changes to local objects and reports changes to interested parties, and clients can register to receive notification of the change only or have the changed object sent with the notification (page 50, paragraph 847). Applicants respectfully submit that the Helgeson patent application does not describe scanning application source code for a transaction or any type of scanning of application source code. Also, the monitoring of the Helgeson patent application does not identify a transaction or related information, but only changes to the data object. Thus, the Helgeson patent application teaches away from the claimed subject matter.

The Examiner submits that page 19, paragraph 39 describes that the transaction-based application does not process transactions over the network. Applicants traverse. Paragraph 39 of the Helgeson patent application describes a Business Applications Management System Platform Architecture that is designed to use a set of unique servers and common objects to generate a set of tasks required to be performed to complete a business transaction, and applications developers can work on the business aspects of the application without having to focus on transaction management. There is no indication in paragraph 39 that a business application does not process transactions over a network. Instead, the Helgeson system is predominantly web-enabled (page 3, paragraph 42), which teaches away from having a transaction-based application that does not process transactions over the network.

The Examiner also submits that the Helgeson patent application at p. 19, par. 0381-0382 teaches storing in a database the related information identified in the scan of the source code, hereinafter identified information. The cited portion of the Helgeson patent application describes persistence of data, but there is no teaching or suggestion of storing related information identified in the scan of the source code. That is, because, as discussed above, the Helgeson patent application fails to teach scanning application source code to identify a transaction and related information related to the transaction, the Helgeson patent application also fails to teach storing the related information identified in the scan of the source code. The Examiner further cites page 2, paragraph 15. Paragraph 15 describes that a processor that executes programs and accesses

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stored data. Again, there is no teaching or suggestion that the stored data is related information that was identified by scanning the source code of a transaction-based application.

The Examiner further submits that the Helgeson patent application at p. 12, paragraph 0277-0278 and page 48, paragraph 836 teaches extracting from the database parameter definitions describing communication of information by the transaction, hereinafter extracted information, and identifying a parameter usage type for each parameter. The Examiner submits that p. 19, paragraph 0387 teaches that said parameter usage type selectable from the parameter usage type set comprising input, output, input/output, and unreferenced. The cited portion of the Helgeson patent application at p. 12, paragraph 0277-0278 describes stored procedures that take marshaled arguments that come in, and store them in specific fields in the database, and vice versa. The cited portion of the Helgeson patent application at page 48, paragraph 836 describes that a connection can be for importing data from ERP systems, exporting billing information, etc. Also, page 48, paragraph 836 describes that the Interconnect enables collaboration with the Platform to allow a Platform-enabled site to share catalog information with the platform network, etc. The cited portion of the Helgeson patent application at page 19, paragraph 0387 describes that "transactional attributes are separately declared in the bean's deployment descriptor (for a specific method, or as the bean's default) as one of the following six options:

TX_NOT_SUPPORTED, TX_SUPPORTS, TX_REQUIRED, TX_REQUIRES_NEW, TX_MANDATORY, TX_BEAN_MANAGED." The options for the transactional attributes indicate whether a transaction is supported, required, mandatory, or managed, but the Helgeson patent application does not describe that extracting parameter definitions and identifying a parameter usage type for each parameter, said parameter usage type selectable from the parameter usage type set comprising input, output, input/output, and unreferenced.

The Examiner further submits that the Helgeson patent application discloses an automatic persistence service provided by the application server enhances the productivity of bean developers, is more efficient at runtime, and allows the bean definition to be independent of the type of data store sued for persistence, and that a component developer is responsible for

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declaring part or all of the attributes of an entity bean and mapping them to fields in a database at deployment time (page 19, paragraph 382). Because a component developer manually maps the attributes to fields, the Helgeson patent application teaches away from the claimed extraction of parameter definitions and identification of a parameter usage type for each parameter, said parameter usage type selectable from the parameter usage type set comprising input, output, input/output, and unreferenced.

The Examiner also submits that the Helgeson patent application at p. 19, para. 0387 teaches displaying the transaction and a subset of the related and extracted information.

Paragraph 387 describes:

"For transactions, an application developer has two options: 1) to explicitly demarcate the boundaries of a transaction, or 2) to use declarative transactional management available with EJBs. Use of declarative transactional management is cleaner and is strongly recommended. In this case, the level of granularity for managing transactions corresponds to methods in a bean. Instead of interleaving transaction boundaries within business logic, transactional attributes are separately declared in the bean's deployment descriptor (for a specific method, or as the bean's default) as one of the following six options:

TX_NOT_SUPPORTED, TX_SUPPORTS, TX_REQUIRED, TX_REQUIRES_NEW, TX_MANDATORY, TX_BEAN_MANAGED. Details of these can be found in books on EJB."

The cited portion of the Helgeson patent application describes transaction options and does not describe displaying the transaction and a subset of the related and extracted information. In addition, because the Helgeson patent application fails to teach scanning application source code to identify a transaction and related information related to the transaction, then the Helgeson patent application also fails to teach displaying a subset of the related information identified in the scan of the source code. The Examiner also submits that paragraph 545, page 29 of the Helgeson patent application describes that Model developers can use the dynamic features of the engine to place data from the bean onto the page teaches displaying a subset of the related

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information. Placing data from the bean onto the page does not teach or suggest displaying a subset of the related information that has been identified by scanning the source code of a transaction-based application and stored in a database. Moreover, paragraph 545 does not teach or suggest displaying the transaction and a subset of the related information and extracted information.

The Examiner submits that page 21, paragraph 420 describes wherein the identified information and extracted information enable building a connector to enable the transaction-based application to process transactions over the network. Applicants traverse. Paragraph 420 describes maintaining transactional integrity, but there is no teaching or suggestion of enabling a transaction-based application that was not able to process transactions over the network to be able to process transactions over the network.

The Examiner submits that the Helgeson patent application does not disclose allowing a user to select the transaction and using the identified information and extracted information to package the user-selected transaction in a form compatible with a connector building tool.

However, the Examiner submits that the O'Brien patent at col. 15, ln. 21-27 teaches using the identified and extracted information to package the user-selected transaction in a form compatible with a connector building tool.

The O'Brien patent describes a user interface and a means by which users can establish, use, and maintain files on the Internet in a manner remote from their local computers (Abstract). The O'Brien patent does not overcome the defects of the Helgeson patent application. For example, the O'Brien patent does not teach or suggest allowing a user to select a displayed transaction. Also, the cited portion of the O'Brien patent at Col. 15, lines 21-27 describes:

"If at step 714 the user must be sent back to the same database, query is made at step 740 to determine if that database is still up. If it is, the request is passed to the pool specification 720 where it is subsequently passed to the database object 236, on to the connection pool 730, and the appropriate database, either the transaction database 150 or the query database 152."

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The O'Brien patent fails to teach or suggest using identified information and extracted information to package a user-selected transaction in a form compatible with a connector building tool, wherein the identified information and extracted information enable building a connector to enable the transaction-based application to process transactions over the network. A "connection pool" is not a connector building tool, and the O'Brien patent teaches at col. 8, ln. 16-18 that the "EJB cluster (EJBC) caches memory of common resources such as the pooling of data connections and the like, as well as data objects." Thus, a connection pool is the pooling of data connections, rather than the claimed connector building tool. The claimed connector building tool may be, for example, the IBM Enterprise Access Beans (EAB) or the Microsoft COMTI Builder (e.g., Specification, page 11, lines 7-9 and lines 24-26). Also, passing a request to a pool specification and subsequently to a database does not teach or suggest packaging a user-selected transaction in a form compatible with a connector building tool. Moreover, the Examiner submits that the O'Brien and Helgeson combination makes it efficient for files to be available worldwide through the Internet, but the claimed invention is not directed to making files available worldwide. Instead, the claimed invention is directed to processing the source code of a transaction-based application that does not process transactions over the network to output data in a form compatible with a connector building tool, wherein identified information and extracted information enable building a connector to enable the transaction-based application to process transactions over the network.

Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of the Helgeson patent application and the O'Brien patent fails to teach or suggest processing the source code of a transaction-based application that does not process transactions over the network to output data in a form compatible with a connector building tool, wherein identified information and extracted information enable building a connector to enable the transaction-based application to process transactions over the network. Thus, the subject matter of independent claims 1, 9, and 17 are not taught or suggested by the Helgeson patent application or the O'Brien patent, either alone or in combination.

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In a previous Office Action, the Examiner also indicated the O'Brien patent at Col. 7, lines 55-59 and lines 64-67 discloses that "user to link a transaction-based application on the mainframe to the internet and/or worldwide web, where the transaction based application was not originally designed for web or internet based transactions." The O'Brien patent provides means by which users can establish, use, and maintain files on the Internet in a manner remote from their local computers (Abstract). The O'Brien patent is not attempting to process the source code of a transaction-based application that does not process transactions over the network to output data in a form compatible with a connector building tool to enable the transaction-based application to process transactions over the network. Col. 7, lines 55-59 and Col. 7, lines 64-67 describe that each of the web servers in a network may handle HTTP requests, that web servers may proxy all requests for dynamic content to a Java application network 122, and that, between tiers, the individual networks may be available such that a web server in Illinois may pass a request for dynamic content to Java application clusters in Wisconsin. The cited portion of the O'Brien patent does not teach or suggest enabling a transaction based application that does not process transactions over a network to process transactions over the web or internet by using the identified information and extracted information to package the user-selected transaction in a form compatible with a connector building tool, wherein the identified information and extracted information enable building a connector to enable the transaction-based application to process transactions over the network.

Dependent claims 2-8, 10-16, and 18-24 incorporate the language of independent claims 1, 9, and 17 and add additional novel elements. Therefore, dependent claims 2-8, 10-16, and 18-24 are not taught or suggested by the Helgeson patent application or the O'Brien patent, either alone or in combination, for at least the same reasons as were discussed with respect to claims 1, 9, and 17.

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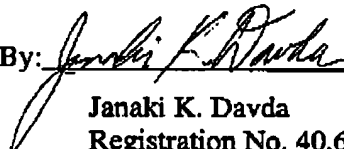
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Conclusion

For all the above reasons, Applicants submit that the pending claims 1-24 are patentable over the art of record. Applicants have not added any claims. Nonetheless, should any additional fees be required, please charge Deposit Account No. 09-0460.

The attorney of record invites the Examiner to contact her at (310) 553-7973 if the Examiner believes such contact would advance the prosecution of the case.

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